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HISTORY OF A PECULIAR CASE.

To the Editor of the State Journal:—

The case notes as follows:

Age 14 years. Native of Colorado. Arrived here June 1, 1911; always healthy and active.

About November 1st noticed coryza, chills and fever progressed. November 5th, eruption like measles over backs of fingers and hands. These papules followed the usual course of pemphigus; about this time the eyeballs and lids became intensely congested, also the mouth, tongue and throat—at first covered with thick fur, then became raw and bleeding, while the gums also became spongy and bleeding. The eruption came next on limbs and buttocks, the palms and soles remained free.

The fever at first ranged from 100.5° ax., in the morning to 104° in the evening; pulse was about 90, while appetite was fair and the bowels normal. Had delirium first night of eruption.

Eruption appeared on 7th day after feeling ill, turned to vesicles about 2nd day, coalesced in two days more and absorbed in three or four days. Few vesicles turned turbid after one week, and after opening larger ones the skin peeled off and left a dark red stain.

Temperature 1st week 100.5° morning; 104.5° evening ax. Pulse 86-100. Respiration normal or very slightly hurried.

On November 19th pulse suddenly became weak and right lung showed signs of congestion. Pulse 120-143, respiration 40, temperature 101.5° morning; 103° evening.

November 22nd patient improved greatly but had a bad night on 22nd; restless and great pain on inspiration.

Odor very pronounced and mouse-like. The papules turned vesicles in 24 hours or less and soon formed bullae which absorbed or disappeared in some way without breaking until a little later when the contents of one large bleb on arm became milky.

The chills stopped about the 7th of November. Urine normal throughout, and no sweating until later on when sweating was profuse for a couple of days, the rest of the time the skin was dry and hot.

The bronchi were intensely congested and breathing difficult at times, expectoration of mucus, no blood.

Eruption about equal on flexor and extensor surfaces, none on scalp, very little on face.

On November 23rd patient worn out, symptoms increased in severity, pulse 140-50, great cardiac weakness. About 6 p. m. moist rales very marked over both lungs and cyanosis very marked, respiration very rapid and pulse 160. Patient became unconscious and died at 3 a. m. on November 24th.

O. W. SINCLAIR, M. D.

BOOK REVIEWS

Ophthalmic Myology. By G. C. Savage, M. D. Second Edition. Pub. by Author, Nashville, Tenn., 1911.

Anyone who knows Dr. Savage or has listened to his enthusiastic discussion of the principles of ophthalmology will at once anticipate the value of this book. As a book for study and reference it is certainly to be recommended to all ophthalmologists. It will require study because its subject is more or less complex and is treated in a most scientific manner, involving higher mathematics. As a book of reference it is indispensable because it is so comprehensive. While the details of operative technic and some minor features may be points of difference or debate, the main discussion and diagnosis is standard and safe to follow entire. After a careful review of the anatomy and physiology of the ophthalmic musculature, the author takes up in good order orthophoria, heterophoria and heterotropia. No discussion of the subject matter is advisable here because it is complete and up to date. But I should like to call attention to the author's treatment of heterotropia, especially cases of comitant heterotropia or strabismus. He shows conclusively that such cases should be seen early—not later than the fourth or fifth years and as young as twelve months; also that the early treatment is only started when we correct the ametropia with glasses but includes most painstaking, patient, and persistent effort to develop vision in the amblyopic eye and binocular vision and fusion with both eyes. The author explains all of the better exercises and modes of treatment and, finally, indications for operations.

E. W. A.

Diseases of the Digestive Canal (Oesophagus, Stomach, Intestines.) By Dr. Paul Cohnheim, Specialist in Diseases of the Stomach and Intestines in Berlin. Edited and translated by Dudley Fulton, M. D., Assistant Professor of Principles and Practice of Medicine, University of California College of Medicine, Los Angeles Department. Second Edition. Cloth. Price \$4. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, 1911.

In translating the second German edition of this work, the editor has greatly enhanced its value by adding thereto short articles on esophagoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, gastric and duodenal hemorrhages. The study of abnormalities of the alimentary canal by means of the fluoroscope and X-Ray plate is likewise included by the translator, and the collection of skiagraphs which he has inserted in Cohnheim's most practical book render the whole a most useful work, which can certainly be highly commended. Let it not be forgotten that Cohnheim considers the anamnesis the most important element in diagnosing gastro-intestinal disease—and alas! how few realize this fact.

R. B.

Case Histories in Medicine, Illustrating the Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment of Disease. By Richard Cabot, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, Harvard Medical School. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. Cloth, Price \$3. Boston, W. M. Leonard, 1911.

There is probably nothing so stimulating to a class in internal medicine, as to be quizzed on a

so-called "theoretical case." Given a few presenting symptoms, to realize their full significance, their probable causes, and then to proceed to the orderly eliciting of objective signs is excellent training for any medical man. Cabot has gone further in this work than in his book on Differential Diagnosis, which we took pleasure in lauding some 9 months ago (Cal. State Jour. Med., Vol. IX, No. 4, p. 177, 1911) and here gives us in the consideration of each case, discussions on prognosis (so important from the standpoint of patient and family) and treatment. No practicing physician can study this book without deriving some benefit and stimulus from it. R. B.

Electricity, Medical and Surgical. By Charles S. Potts, M. D. Published by Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1911.

The author has compiled an eminently practical volume. Apparently no application of electricity, as a diagnostic, prognostic, or therapeutic agent has been omitted. The sections on Electro-physics and Electro-physiology will be welcomed by those physicians who work intelligently and honestly. If more complete, the chapters on diagnosis and prognosis would be of greater assistance to the neurologist. The therapeutic side is treated in an able manner; but why in so excellent and ethical a work should certain diseases, as for instance, obesity, diabetes and chorea, be mentioned as amenable to electric treatment? The section on the Roentgen ray is a valuable addition. The drawings and charts are clear and accurate. R. L. A.

Orthopedic Surgery. Ridlon, A. M., M. D. Practical Medicine Series, 1911, Volume VII. Published by Year Book Publishers, Chicago.

That portion of the book which is devoted to Orthopedics is a sort of "Mulum in Parvo." It is concerned with many subjects, not a few of which are still much mooted problems, all of which are considered by men who speak with definite authority.

The fact that Ridlon does not always agree with the writers, whose papers he has discussed, is not distracting but rather is it refreshing, as it privileges the reader to think and prompts the reader to inquire.

The many subjects considered are concisely abstracted, carefully arranged, very ably discussed and offer much that is recent even though this much may not be final.

It is not pleasant to find so much emphasis placed upon "The Age Limit" by the author of the paper on Congenital Dislocation of the Hip. It is pleasant, however, to find an expression of unanimity in the paper on The Treatment of Club Feet and it is indeed gratifying to note that the operation of Resection of the Hip in the treatment of Hip-Disease is not only being abandoned but also condemned. C. C. CRANE.

Medical Jurisprudence, Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. By R. A. Witthaus, A. M., M. D., Professor of Chemistry, Toxicology and Medical Jurisprudence in Cornell University, and Tracy C. Becker, A. B., LL. B., Counselor at Law, Professor of Criminal Law and Medical Jurisprudence, University of Buffalo and numerous collaborators. William Wood & Co., New York.

This is an exhaustive work of twelve hundred and seventy-three pages by two authoritative men. From the book standpoint may be said, that the headings on the right hand pages are an excellent feature, showing at a glance, the contents below. The paragraphing is admirably done, such words as lethal dose, duration, symptoms, elimination, treatment, postmortem appearances, analysis and statistics being printed in heavy faced type as they first occur in the text, thus clearly establishing location when one is consulting the book with a desire to find a special fact in a brief space of time.

A toxicologist can readily see that this book was written by a chemist and a lawyer. It is too large a volume for brief systematic description so the reviewer can only speak in a general way.

No chemist can tell the true value of a book of this type unless he works with it, yet at a glance the treatise shows a clearness and a completeness that place it at once as a book of value not only as an authority, but a laboratory guide as well.

FRANK S. GREEN.

RED CROSS.

The American Red Cross desires again to invite attention to the exhibition in connection with the Ninth International Red Cross Conference, which will be held in Washington, D. C., from May 7 to 17, 1912.

The exhibition will be divided into two sections, which will be styled Marie Feodorovna and General. The former is a prize competition, with prizes aggregating 18,000 rubles, or approximately \$9000, divided into nine prizes, one of 6000 rubles, approximately \$3000; two of 3000 rubles each, and six of 1000 rubles each.

The subjects of this competition are as follows:

1. A scheme for the removal of wounded from the battlefield with the minimum number of stretcher bearers.
2. Portable (surgeons') washstands, for use in the field.
3. The best method of packing dressings for use at first aid and dressing stations.
4. Wheeled stretchers.
5. Transport of stretchers on mule back.
6. Easily folding portable stretchers.
7. Transport of wounded between warships and hospital ships and the coast.
8. The best method of heating railway cars by a system independent of steam from the locomotive.
9. The best model of portable Roentgen apparatus, permitting utilization of X-rays on the battlefield and at first aid stations.

The maximum prize will be awarded to the best exhibit, irrespective of the subject, and so on.

The General Exhibit is again divided into two parts; the first will be an exhibition by the various Red Cross Associations of the world. The second will be devoted to exhibits by individuals or business houses of any articles having to do with the amelioration of the sufferings of sick and wounded in war, which are not covered by the Marie Feodorovna Prize Competition for the year. While the American Red Cross will be glad to have any articles pertaining to medical and surgical practice in the field, it is especially anxious to secure a full exhibit relating to preventive measures in campaign. Such articles will be classified as follows:

1. Apparatus for furnishing good water in the field.
2. Field apparatus for the disposal of wastes.
3. Shelter, such as portable huts, tents and the like, for hospital purposes.
4. Transport apparatus (to prevent the suffering of sick and wounded) exclusive of such apparatus as specified for the Marie Feodorovna Prize Competition.

As with the Marie Feodorovna Prize Competition, for this country only articles having the approval of the Central Committee of the American Red Cross will be accepted.

Diplomas will be awarded for exhibits in this section of the exhibition as approved and recommended by the jury.

Further information may be obtained from the Chairman, Exhibition Committee, American Red Cross, Washington, D. C.

It is perhaps to apparatus having to do with prevention of disease in armies that the energies of Americans have been specially directed since the Spanish-American War. Therefore, the last-mentioned section of the exhibition should make an appeal to them.